

7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

**2019**

Bentham House,  
4-8 Endsleigh Gardens,  
Kings Cross, London WC1H 0EG

The background of the poster features a collage of images. At the top, there is a modern building with a glass facade. Below it, there is a group of people, some of whom are wearing headscarves, gathered around a table. The text "UCL in the Arab World: Collaboration, Experiences and Opportunities" is overlaid on this collage in a large, bold, blue font.

# UCL in the Arab World: Collaboration, Experiences and Opportunities

Sponsored by UCL Qatar and the Africa and  
Middle East Network

#UCLintheArabWorld



## Welcome

### Professor Ijeoma F. Uchegbu

Pro-Vice Provost - Africa and The Middle East

On behalf of the Africa and Middle East Network I am delighted to welcome you to UCL in the Arab World: Collaboration, Experiences and Opportunities. The programme for the day is structured around three themes:

- Trends and opportunities,
- Research, innovation and impact,
- Collaboration, partnership and delivery.

Through these themes we will consider the breadth of our past and current activities in the MENA region. We will explore what we can learn, how we can collaborate with experts in the region and how our current and future activities can contribute to the University's Global Engagement Strategy, UCL's Grand Challenges and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

This event is an excellent demonstration of the value of our regional networks and an opportunity to explore our relationships and activity from an inter-disciplinary perspective, in a region that presents tremendous opportunities for UCL.

I hope that you enjoy the day.



### Dr Sam Evans

Director, Global Engagement Office and UCL Qatar

At the end of October 2020 UCL will have successfully completed its contract with Qatar Foundation and the Qatar Museum Authority marking the end of a venture that has made a valuable contribution to Qatar's cultural heritage sector. The activity centre has achieved significant outputs for UCL in teaching, research, continuing professional development and relationship-building in an exciting, but not always straightforward, region of the world. By the end of the contract some 320 students, the majority of them female, will have gained a postgraduate or doctoral qualification from UCL; we will have delivered professional and executive education programmes to well over 2400 people and significantly advanced the study and practice of cultural heritage across the region.

We are proud of these achievements and we hope that you will take a moment to view the UCL Qatar exhibition and speak to some of our staff who have joined us from Doha for the day. Some of the highlights are included at the end of this brochure.

The closure of UCL Qatar as an overseas campus reflects a move away from this model of international working, to a partnership model and could, and should, mark the beginning of even richer and more fruitful relationships in the region. We now know and are increasingly confident that we can successfully deliver UCL's academic mission in many different ways. The strategic partnerships that we have established, and the lessons we've learnt about collaboration, internal and external, have tremendous value for UCL.

We have organised today's event to showcase UCL's collective achievements in the region to date, and to discuss how we, as a world class university with one of the strongest brands in the sector, can gain from the educational and commercial opportunities the MENA region.

I hope that you find the day rich and rewarding.

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## Event Themes

### Research, Innovation and Impact

Drawing on academic and outreach activity from across the institution, the conference will showcase UCL's research and public engagement activities across the region and their contribution to UCL's Grand Challenges.



### Collaboration, Partnership and Delivery

Building on UCL's experience in Qatar and the region, the conference will explore the realities of working in the region, taking in cultural understanding, equality and diversity to political volatility and emergency preparedness.



### Trends and Opportunities

There are current and emerging opportunities for UCL to collaborate across the MENA region: the conference will share and explore these opportunities and their potential including professional education and academic consultancy.





## Session 1

### Emerging Trends, Themes and Opportunities

To set the scene for the day this session will consider the political and economic development of the MENA region and explore the activities, and potential, of UK universities in the region with a focus on Theme 3: Trends and Opportunities.



**Prof Nora Colton**

Specialist in Middle East Economic Development and a Higher Education Leader

At UCL, she is Pro-Vice-Provost (Postgraduate Education), responsible for postgraduate taught education and Director of Education for the UCL Institute of Ophthalmology and Moorfields Eye Hospital. She is Professor of Vision and Eye Health Education at UCL. Nora is particularly interested in the political economy of health and the Middle East. She has conducted extensive research in the Middle East as both a Carnegie Scholar and two-time Fulbright Scholar. She received her PhD from St. Antony's College, Oxford University. She speaks Arabic and has travelled extensively in the region and authored numerous articles.

**Michael Stephens**

Specialist on Middle East Affairs, and the Research Fellow for Middle East Studies and Head of RUSI Qatar

From March to June 2017 Michael was seconded into the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, serving as the Senior Research Analyst for Syria and Lebanon. Michael has twelve years of experience working in the Middle East, and has conducted research across many countries including Turkey, the Levant, Iraq and the Gulf States. As a frequent commentator on Middle East affairs, his writing has appeared in many news outlets, and he is also a regular broadcast commentator. Michael also regularly advises the Crown Prosecution Service on issues relating to national security, and counter terrorism.



**Dr Neil Quilliam**

Associate Fellow, Middle East and North Africa Programme, Chatham House

He was previously senior research fellow heading the Programme's Future Dynamics in the Gulf project. Prior to that, he was project director of Syria and Its Neighbours policy initiative and acting head of the MENA Programme. He previously served as senior MENA energy adviser at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), senior MENA analyst at Control Risks, London, and senior programme officer at the United Nations University, Amman. Neil has lived in Saudi Arabia, Jordan and UAE, and has travelled extensively around the MENA region, working on a variety of development, education and research projects.



**Dr Sam Evans**

Director, Global Engagement Office and UCL Qatar

Sam Evans manages UCL Qatar and oversees the partner relationships with Qatar Foundation, Qatar Museums and the international campus universities in Doha's Education City. With a diverse and extensive publications record, Dr Evans has held academic, research and visiting appointments in the UK and Europe, joining UCL in 2016 from his last post as a policy Deputy Director in a UK Department of State. He has experience of working in the MENA region, in positions with transnational dimensions. Dr Evans holds two doctorates and is a graduate of the Royal College of Defence Studies.



**John Shaw**

International Education Strategy Specialist, and Associate Partner at Cushman & Wakefield

Before joining C&W in 2013, John was a Pro Vice Chancellor (International) with the University of East London and Dean of International Affairs at UCLan. With a deep understanding of curriculum design and quality assurance issues, John is an international education strategy specialist, including all forms of Transnational Education (TNE) initiatives and especially projects relating to overseas campuses, pathway franchise programmes, income generating provision and international schools.





## Session 2

### Collaboration, Partnership and Delivery: A Recipe for Success

Exploring Theme 2: Collaboration, Partnership and Delivery, the panel will share insights and experiences of working across cultures and overcoming legal, financial, academic and human resource challenges in the region. Questions from the floor are welcome and encouraged.



#### Prof Sara Mole

Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity Professor, UCL;  
MRC Laboratory for Molecular Cell Biology and GOS Institute of Child Health, UCL

Prof Mole is Head of the Inborn Errors of Metabolic section at UCL GOS Institute for Child Health and a Group Leader at the MRC Laboratory for Molecular Cell Biology (LMCB). Her research focus is inherited neurodegenerative disorders that affect children, and especially translational neuroscience for Batten disease. Prof Mole is the UCL Provost's Envoy for Gender Equality. Her efforts in this extend beyond UCL. She has initiated a project with Tohoku University, Japan, and is advising on a new equalities charter for higher education in Canada. Prof Mole has engaged with UCL Qatar to discuss initiatives to ensure that all talents are harnessed within the organisation.

#### Hannah Balogun

MA, Chartered FCIPD, FCMI, FInstLM, is a Specialist in Human Resources and the Director of Human Resources for UCL Qatar

Hannah is responsible for the HR function delivering sound HR practices in Qatar. She has worked in roles within the education sector for over 16 years, with experience in MENA for the last 8 years, developing local strategies for the attraction, retention, engagement and development of people. She has special responsibility for strategic and operations management, acting as a trusted and collaborative strategic adviser, with overall responsibility for shaping, developing, delivering and implementing UCL Qatar's HR strategy in line with business goals in a multicultural setting.



#### Jonathan Dale

Specialist in Educational Leadership and Director of International Leadership Development, for UCL's Institute of Education

Jonathan has a wide expertise in educational leadership development, e-learning and educational consultancy within an international context. He leads an innovative department that offers a wide range of contracted-research, education consultancy and leadership development services. As director for e-learning and then as a director for leadership development, at the UK's National College for School Leadership he led the development of many of NCSL's National Professional Qualifications for School Leaders.

#### Richard Homer

Global Mobility and International Taxation, Responsible for UCL Global Mobility Programme

Richard joined UCL in the summer of 2018, having previously spent twenty years in expatriate tax at the Big Four accountancy firms. Richard trained in international taxation at PwC, qualifying ATT in 2000. He then worked at Deloitte for 13 years specialising in expatriate taxation of individuals who were either UK nationals working on assignments overseas or overseas nationals coming to working the UK. Looking at tax social security and soft mobility provisions. During his career Richard has worked with main multination companies including; Thomson Reuters, Santander AM, Shell and Bayer AG on global projects many in the MENA region.



#### Alex Hall

Legal Counsel with UCL Legal Services and a solicitor with over 12 years qualified experience

Alex Hall is a Legal Counsel with UCL Legal Services and a solicitor. He specialises in advising on commercial contracts, intellectual property and information technology. He has been closely involved with a number of UCL's international contracts and has provided advice relating to Saudi Arabia and UCL Qatar, Kazakhstan and Australia.

#### Kevin Coutinho

Specialist in Gender and Race Equality and UCL's Athena SWAN and Gender Policy Manager

Kevin leads on UCL's work to progress gender equality through supporting and co-ordinating institutional and departmental participation in the national equality benchmarking schemes. Kevin is also the Vice-Chair of the UK's Higher Education Race Action Group, a network of higher education professionals promoting race equality in the sector, a member of the League of European Research Universities' Gender Working Group, and is a member of the Royal Society of Chemistry's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee. He is Chair of the Board of Windsor Fellowship, a national race equality and inclusion charity that works to promote training and development to students and young professionals.





## Programme

**10:30 Coffee & Registration**

**11:00 Welcome & Introduction: Prof Nora Colton**

(Pro-Vice-Provost, Postgraduate Education, UCL)

**11:05 Session 1 : Emerging Themes: Trends and opportunities**

Chair: Prof Nora Colton (Pro-Vice-Provost, Postgraduate Education, UCL)

Speakers and panel members: Michael Stephens (Research Fellow for Middle East Studies, RUSI), Dr Neil Quilliam (Associate Fellow, Middle East and North Africa Programme, Chatham House), Dr Sam Evans (Director, Global Engagement Office and UCL Qatar), John Shaw (International Education Strategy Specialist, and Associate Partner at Cushman & Wakefield )

The presentation will set the scene for the day, consider the scope in MENA for UK higher education institutions (in terms of teaching, research and commercial potential) and introduce the breadth of UCL's relationships in the region. The session will aim to:

- Set the scene around the political and economic development of the Gulf and MENA and current issues and trends Provide context for the day's activities;
- Explore UK universities' operations and motives for working in MENA;
- Generate interest and engagement amongst participants;
- Pose some key questions about institutional appetite for working in the region

A short Q&A will follow presentations from the guest speakers.

**12:10 Session 2 : Collaboration, Partnership and Delivery: a Recipe for Success**

Chair: Prof Sara Mole (Professor of Molecular Cell Biology, LMCB Group Leader, UCL)

With a focus on working internationally and the delivery of UK education and research collaborations overseas; a panel of academic and professional services staff from across the institution will share their insights and experiences of working across cultures and overcoming legal, financial, academic and human resource challenges. The session will aim to:

- Promote the sharing of institutional experience;
- Support the development of an expert knowledge base;
- Provide practical examples to support best practice in the delivery of education and training overseas.



**13:00 Lunch and Poster Exhibition**

An opportunity to see UCL's research impact in Qatar and across the region.

**13:45 Session 3 : Research, Innovation and Impact: Exploring UCL's Regional Contribution**

Chair: Dr Ian Scott (Director, Grand Challenges and Cross-Disciplinary Development, UCL)

An academically focussed session: participants will consider presentations from four UCL academics with research interests in MENA, in particular relating to the university's "Grand Challenges" and the UN's "Sustainable Development Goals". Speakers will focus on how their work achieved impact in the region and any regional issues that contributed to or inhibited that impact to support the exchange of knowledge and 'lessons learnt' within the university.

**15:10 Break**

**15:15 Session 4 : Realising Our Global Opportunities: Case Studies with International Application**

Chair: Roger de Montfort (Managing Director, UCL Consultants)

Recent research suggests that UCL is in a unique position to explore professional education and consultancy opportunities in MENA with a focus on Qatar, Jordan and Egypt. The institution stands to gain influence and profile, staff enrichment and commercial benefit by sharing its academic expertise across the region. The session will explore the potential application of existing models to new activities and geographies, consider the benefits for UCL and its 2034 agenda and invite discussion across the institution.

**16:45 Closing Remarks**

**17:00 Drinks Reception and UCL Qatar Exhibition**

An opportunity for networking, to learn more about the breadth of UCL Qatar's work in Qatar and the region.

**18:00 Close**



## Session 3

### Research, Innovation and Impact: Exploring UCL's Regional Contribution

This academically focussed session relates to Theme 1: Research, Innovation and Impact and considers UCL academics' impact in the region, in particular relating to the "Grand Challenges" and the UN's "Sustainable Development Goals"



#### Dr Ian Scott

Director, Grand Challenges and Cross-Disciplinary Development in the Office of the UCL Vice-Provost (Research)

In OVPR Ian directs UCL's university-wide initiative designed to enhance the value of UCL research both within and beyond the university through its Grand Challenges programme (GC). Through six major strands – Global Health, Sustainable Cities, Cultural Understanding, Human Wellbeing, Transformative Technology and Justice & Equality – GC encourages and supports cross-disciplinary and cross-boundary (with non-academic partners) research-related activities with the aim of developing solutions to problems of pressing societal concern. The high-level strategic focus for GC is the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Ian's remit includes the development of new cross-disciplinary platforms of collective interest at UCL on topics of broad scholarly and societal concern.

#### Prof Dina D'Ayala

Professor of Structural Engineering at University College London, within the Department of Civil Environmental and Geomatic Engineering

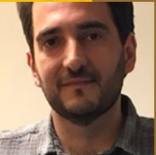
Dina is head of Civil Engineering and Co-Director of the EPI Centre. She is a director of the International Association of Earthquake Engineers and a Fellow of the ICE. Her specialism is Structural Resilience Engineering with particular emphasis on the assessment, strengthening, preservation and resilience of existing buildings, structures, transport infrastructure and cultural heritage. She has 25 years' experience working with international agencies, the World Bank, DfID, UNDP, and the British Council, in countries such as Nepal, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq, and the Philippines, leading interdisciplinary projects on enhancing resilience against natural hazards



#### Dr Georgios Papaioannou

Associate Professor and Graduate Tutor at UCL Qatar, specializing in MENA Archaeology, Museums and Digital Technologies

He has directed internationally-funded research work and projects of archaeological, cultural and museum works in the MENA world (Egypt, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, Syria), including the Museum at the Lowest Place on Earth in Jordan and the Museum Big Data Project in Qatar. He is HEA Senior Fellow, Secretary General of the Hellenic Studies Society of Near Eastern Studies, and Pool of Experts member of the European Museum Academy



#### Dr George Grimble

Biochemist Specialist in Clinical Nutrition in Gastroenterology, Critical Care and Community Malnutrition, at the UCL Division of Medicine

He researches how best to help people who are either losing or gaining weight yet cannot help it. Since 1994, he has designed and/or run 5 MSc and BSc nutrition programmes in three universities which have taught ~1400 students, mostly from outside the UK. Half were enrolled in UCL MSc programmes he initiated in 2008. Alumni include faculty members in University Nutrition Departments, NGOs and Government Health Ministries in MENA. In 2018, he set up an associate MSc Nutrition programme with UAE University in Al Ain.



#### Murray Fraser

architect and architectural historian, Professor of Architecture and Global Culture at the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

Murray Fraser is an architect and architectural historian. He is Professor of Architecture and Global Culture at the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL. Murray has published extensively on design research, architectural history & theory, urbanism, post-colonialism and cultural studies. In 2008, his book on Architecture and the 'Special Relationship' won the Royal Institute of British Architects President's Research Award. He is General Editor for the 21st edition of Sir Banister Fletcher's Global History of Architecture, and in 2018 received the Annie Spink Award for Excellence in Architectural Education. Murray is now editor-in-chief for the ARENA Journal of Architectural Research (AJAR). He is also Chair of the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain.





## Session 4

### Realising Our Global Opportunities: Case Studies with International Application

The final session for the day will explore UCL's unique position to explore professional education and consultancy opportunities in MENA and consider the benefits for UCL and its 2034 agenda. A Q&A exploring Theme 3: Trends and Opportunities will follow the presentations. Questions and suggestions from the floor are welcome and encouraged



**Roger de Montfort**  
International Consultancy Specialist and Managing Director of UCL Consultants Ltd

Roger de Montfort is the Managing Director of UCL Consultants, a wholly-owned subsidiary of UCL which manages consultancy and bespoke short course opportunities and connects UCL's world-class academics and research facilities with public and private sector clients nationally and internationally. He joined UCLC in 2013 from global professional services firm PwC where he was a partner, having joined originally as a trainee accountant in 1985 as a Classics graduate from UCL.

#### Prof Norbert Pachler

Specialist in Teaching, Quality, and Learning Innovation at the UCL Institute of Education

As Pro-Director: Professor Pachler has overall strategic responsibility for the UCL Institute of Education's teaching and learning portfolio, leading change, managing quality and supporting innovation in education. As Vice-Dean: Enterprise for the IOE, he oversees consultancy and knowledge exchange activity for the Faculty as well as leading and contributing to a number of large-scale international teacher education and development projects with a particular focus on the Middle East.



**John-George Nicholson**  
Business Manager at the UCL Medical School Education Consultancy (MSEC)

John-George is responsible for the development of commercial knowledge transfer opportunities for the UCL Medical School. In this role he has also worked closely with colleagues from UCL Qatar, UCL School of Pharmacy, and the UCL Eastman Dental Institute and UCLC, to develop other income generating opportunities. Has worked in roles with experience in MENA countries including Egypt, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Jordan. John-George has special responsibility for developing new business, managing new and existing client relationships, proposal generation and contract negotiation.

#### John Richards

International Education & Innovation, and Associate Partner at Cushman & Wakefield

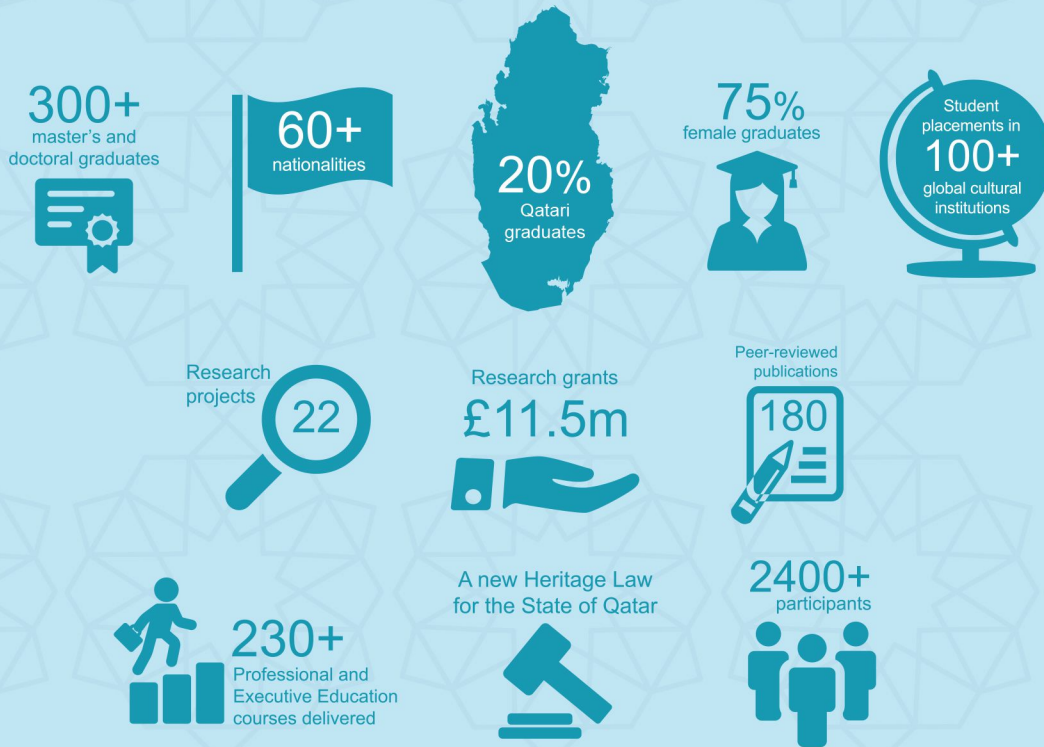
John specialises in advising on the feasibility of new international education projects and joint ventures. This includes all aspects of a project from the idea stage to assessing market demand, analysing options, business planning, testing viability and returns, and negotiating joint venture structures or partnerships. With a background in economics and financial analysis, John has provided advice to a range of university, school, developer and investor clients.



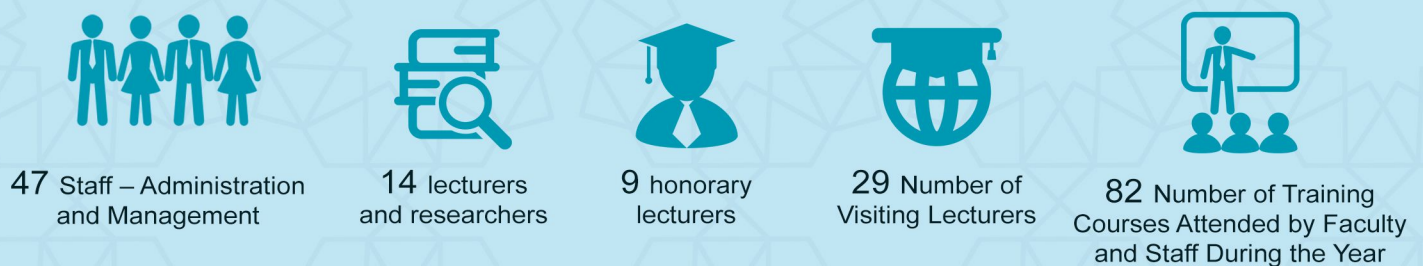


# UCL Qatar in Numbers

UCL Qatar's people are the reason for its success. They are highly skilled lecturers and research associates, librarians and laboratory technicians, administrators and technology specialists.



## UCL Qatar Staff Facts and Figures Academic Year 2018-19



UK 20 staff - Bulgaria 1 staff - Germany 1 staff - Greece 4 staff - India 3 staff - Ireland 5 staff

Italy 4 staff - USA 1 staff - Singapore 1 staff - French 1 staff - Lebanese 1 staff - Canadian 1 staff - Syrian 1 staff - Tunisian 1 staff - Jordanian 1 staff - Yemeni 1 staff - Egypt 1 staff - South Africa





# UCL Qatar in Numbers

UCL Qatar's professional training programme aims to support the needs of emerging and established professionals in the fields of Cultural Heritage and Information and Knowledge Management. Academics and expert practitioners from around the world are brought to Qatar to share their knowledge with their peers.

## Continuing Professional Development Courses



222 courses  
delivered since inception



2161 participants  
since inception



80% attendance  
from Qatar Museums

## Courses Delivered to



مكتبة قطر الوطنية  
QATAR NATIONAL LIBRARY



وزارة الثقافة والرياضة  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND SPORTS  
STATE OF QATAR



شبكة الجزيرة الإعلامية  
ALJAZEERA MEDIA NETWORK



Education  
Development  
Institute



عضو في مؤسسة قطر  
Member of Qatar Foundation







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